

# Since Salvation Is by Grace Why Do Good Works?

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## I. Bible truths that can be misapplied—So that some would ask, “Why do good works?”

### A. It’s often stated that eternal salvation is not by good works—So: *What’s the point?*

Eph 2:9 **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.

2Ti 1:9 Who hath saved us (*Jesus*), and called *us* with an holy calling (*Holy Spirit*), **not according to our works**, but according to his own purpose (*Father*) and grace...

Rom 9:11 ...**not of works**, but of him that calleth; (*referencing election*)

Tit 3:5 **Not by works** of righteousness which we have done... (*referencing regeneration*)

Rom 11:6 ...if by grace, then *is it no more of works*: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if *it be* of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

### B. All God’s children get to heaven (no matter what)—So: *What’s the point?*

Joh 6:39 ...this is the Father's will...of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing...

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish...

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate...them he also glorified.

### C. The Bible teaches that nobody can be perfect—So: *What’s the point of trying?*

Rom 7:21 ...when I would do good, evil is present with me.

## II. Scoffers: ‘If I believed that, I would just go out and do whatever I wanted to do.’

**A. The Holy Spirit anticipated this objection to salvation all by grace**

Rom 6:1-2 ...Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid...

**B. A born again child of God (who really understands grace) has a new ‘want to’**

Php 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

Heb 8:11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

Heb 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ...purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

2Co 5:14 For the love of Christ constraineth us...

**III. Here is Bible truth—Sin does matter—Every sin in all history must be paid for**

**A. Every man will be judged out of ‘the books’—Or out of ‘another book’**

Psa 130:3 If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

**B. God opened our books and placed what was written on Christ at the cross**

Isa 53:6 ...the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2Co 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

1Pe 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

**IV. Truth #1: All that Jesus died for go to heaven—Truth #2: For now, we’re still here**

**A. As a Father—God does deal with His children—(While they are here in this world)**

Heb 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son...

Heb 12:11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Heb 10:26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

Heb 10:27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Heb 10:28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

Heb 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Heb 10:30 For we know him that hath said, Vengeance *belongeth* unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

Heb 10:31 *It is* a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

## **B. God judges nations: Sodom—Egypt/Canaan—Israel/Judah—Babylon—(USA??)**

Jer 6:15 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time *that* I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

Isa 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil...

## **C. America has no shame—And refuses God's calls to repentance**

Isa 9:10 The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones: the sycomores are cut down, but we will change *them into* cedars.

## **D. God's words concerning Sodom—"I will not destroy it for ten's sake" (Gen 18:32)**

2Ch 7:13 ...if I send pestilence among my people;

2Ch 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

## **V. Four New Testament approaches for teaching good works**

### **A. Paul's pattern—'Now you know grace: Therefore...'**

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore...by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Eph 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

### **B. Jesus' motivating method—'Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand'**

Mat 4:17 ...Jesus began to preach...Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Mat 5:3 Blessed (*happy*) are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

Mat 7:25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Luk 17:20 ...The kingdom of God cometh not with observation:

Luk 17:21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

Rom 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Mat 13:44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

**C. 'New Covenant' motivation (Christianity is the religion of understood forgiveness)**

Heb 8:8 ...Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

Heb 8:9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.

Heb 8:10 For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

Heb 8:11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

Heb 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

Heb 8:13 In that he saith, A new *covenant*, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old *is* ready to vanish away.

**D. A summation statement of the Book of Romans—'Faith in grace demands works'**

Rom 1:17 ...The just shall live by faith.

Rom 3:9 ...we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ...

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved...

**Rom 8:30** Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

**Rom 8:38** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

**Rom 8:39** Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Rom 12:1** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.